# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4495
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002
AMOUNT SPENT ON PUBLICITY
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN;BIR SING MAHATO

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) the amount spent by the MTNL on publicity and gifts since April 1,2000 till date;

(b) whether this huge expenditure by the MTNL is justified;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to take any action against any officer to check such wasteful expenditure alongwith the clarification of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such wasteful expenditure by the MTNL?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) An amount of Rs. 58,38,68,178 was spent on publicity and Rs. 73,11,796 on gifts by the MTNL since 1/4/2000 till date.

(b) Yes, Sir. This expenditure has been made in the interest of service i.e. to promote the services and educate the subscribers, which is must in competitive environment.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) No Sir, as no wasteful expenditure has been incurred.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.